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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EMPLOYEE

*IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE*

Applicant: George Harry HOFFMAN, et al.

Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND  
COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT  
FOR A NETWORK-BASED  
RESTAURANT SUPPLY CHAIN  
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.: 09/816,881

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 2167

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JAN 27 2003

GROUP 3600

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR**  
**PROPRIETARY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.56 AND MPEP §§ 724.02 AND 724.04**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached hereto is a Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement submitting proprietary information to the Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and MPEP §724. Applicant respectfully requests that the information be considered only by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, or other authorized Patent and Trademark Office employee.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 1/22/03

By [Signature]

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Customer Number: 22428



22428

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Telephone: (202) 672-5485

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

William T. Ellis  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 26,874



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**UNDER 37 CFR 1.56 AND MPEP §§ 724**

**GROUP 3600**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is a listing of co-pending U.S. patent applications, which relate(s)  
to the above-identified application.

SERIAL NO.

FILING DATE

SERIAL NO.

FILING DATE

*F.Z.* 09/ 815,729 March 23, 2001  
09/815,463 March 23, 2001  
09/815,489 March 23, 2001  
09/815,490 March 23, 2001  
09/815,515 March 23, 2001  
09/815,559 March 23, 2001  
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09/815,715 March 23, 2001  
09/815,725 March 23, 2001  
09/815,727 March 23, 2001  
09/815,731 March 23, 2001  
09/815,734 March 23, 2001

*F.Z.* 09/815,759 March 23, 2001  
09/815,777 March 23, 2001  
09/815,792 March 23, 2001  
09/815,813 March 23, 2001  
09/815,830 March 23, 2001  
09/815,845 March 23, 2001  
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09/815,893 March 23, 2001  
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09/815,973 March 23, 2001  
09/815,989 March 23, 2001  
09/816,021 March 23, 2001  
09/816,033 March 23, 2001  
09/816,048 March 23, 2001  
09/816,069 March 23, 2001  
09/816,075 March 23, 2001

<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>
42 09/816,083	March 23, 2001	42. 09/816,429	March 23, 2001
09/816,092	March 23, 2001	09/816,430	March 23, 2001
09/816,101	March 23, 2001	09/816,431	March 23, 2001
09/816,121	March 23, 2001	09/816,434	March 23, 2001
09/816,151	March 23, 2001	09/816,454	March 23, 2001
09/816,160	March 23, 2001	09/816,455	March 23, 2001
09/816,167	March 23, 2001	09/816,471	March 23, 2001
09/816,187	March 23, 2001	09/816,488	March 23, 2001
09/816,203	March 23, 2001	09/816,491	March 23, 2001
09/816,212	March 23, 2001	09/816,495	March 23, 2001
09/816,231	March 23, 2001	09/816,503	March 23, 2001
09/816,249	March 23, 2001	09/816,507	March 23, 2001
09/816,268	March 23, 2001	09/816,536	March 23, 2001
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09/816,285	March 23, 2001	09/816,543	March 23, 2001
09/816,296	March 23, 2001	09/816,553	March 23, 2001
09/816,314	March 23, 2001	09/816,555	March 23, 2001
09/816,331	March 23, 2001	09/816,560	March 23, 2001
09/816,349	March 23, 2001	09/816,561	March 23, 2001
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09/816,414	March 23, 2001	09/816,896	March 23, 2001
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09/816,427	March 23, 2001	09/834,838	April 13, 2001
09/816,428	March 23, 2001	09/834,924	April 13, 2001

Applicant considers the aforementioned documents and the disclosure of their existence as pending applications to constitute proprietary information. This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended as an admission either that the listed applications constitute prior art against the claims of the present application or that the listed applications are material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant assumes that the examiner will have access to all of the references cited in the applications. However, if the examiner wishes applicants to submit copies of the references cited in the listed applications, the examiner is encouraged to inform applicants.

Accompanying this Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement is a transmittal letter indicating that the materials contained herein are proprietary, as required by MPEP § 724.02.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(B) prior to the mailing date of the first official action.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the foregoing information and provide in the next official communication the information set forth in MPEP § 724.04(a), particularly the information under item (3), so that the applicant can, if appropriate, subsequently file a petition to expunge those materials, as provided according to MPEP § 724.05.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 1/22/03

By 

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Customer Number: 22428



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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.